

ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME

DIVISION OF COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

NEWS RELEASE



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2013 Yukon River Summer Salmon Fishery News Release #47 **Summer Announcement #43, District 1 Commercial Fishing Period** Districts Affected: Lower Yukon Area

The Pilot Station sonar cumulative passage estimate of approximately 103,700 Chinook salmon through July 5 is well below the historical average of 130,000 for this date. Based on the assessment information to date, the current projection is for a total run size similar to the poor run of 2012. Conversely, the Pilot Station sonar summer chum salmon passage estimate is approximately 2.3 million fish which is above the median of 1.5 million for this date. Poor Chinook salmon run sizes in recent years warrant continued caution.

The preliminary commercial harvest in Districts 1 and 2 combined through July 5 is approximately 240,500 summer chum salmon with a reported 932 Chinook salmon released and 94 Chinook salmon caught but not sold.

Based on the abundance of summer chum salmon, this announcement opens one commercial fishing period in District 1.

District 1 Commercial Gillnet: Commercial salmon fishing in the entire District 1 area will be open for one 6-hour period from 6:00 p.m. Sunday, July 7, until 12:00 midnight Sunday, July 7 with gillnets restricted to 5 ½-inch or smaller mesh size and not exceeding 30 meshes in depth to target summer chum salmon.

Once again, all of District 1 is open for commercial fishing during this period with gillnets restricted to 5 ½-inch or smaller mesh size and not exceeding 30 meshes in depth. Commercial gillnet fishermen can release live Chinook salmon or retain them for subsistence purposes. The sale of Chinook salmon is prohibited and Chinook salmon caught but not sold must be reported on fish tickets.

Fishermen in District 1 should stand by for short notice news releases on VHF and radio regarding the salmon fishing schedule.

The subsistence fishing schedule and recorded fishery announcements will be available 24 hours a day at 1-866-479-7387 or in Fairbanks call (907) 459-7387. If you have any questions regarding this report, please call the ADFG office in Emmonak at 949-1320 or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Fairbanks at 456-0418 or in Emmonak at 949-1825.

This has been an announcement by the Alaska Department of Fish and Game in cooperation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

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